

GRAND RAPIDS HERALD

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POWER.
 Saturday, Jan. 27.—Hermann

THE GRAND
 All week.—A Heroine in Rags

SMITH.
 All Week.—Vaudville

WEATHER.
 WASHINGTON, Jan. 27.—For Lower Michigan—Snow; warmer; easterly winds.

DEATH OF BLAINE.

In the pulseless calm of eternal slumber, the noblest American of his time lies stark and cold. Through long weeks of mental and physical agony he fought back the insidious advances of life's marauder foe, never yielding until the current of vitality had emptied itself into the consuming vortex of an incurable malady.

The closing hour of his heroic battle for existence fell like a benediction. Without a parting word, a convulsive gasp, a sign of relief or a quiver of pain he sank into unconsciousness, and thence into eternal rest.

The death of no other American could excite a more wide-spread grief than is manifested over the loss of him whom today the nation mourns, and not from America alone, but from the civilized world come the countless expressions of sympathy and sorrow.

James H. Blaine was the most conspicuous figure in contemporary history. From the day he entered congress, when the nation was struggling for existence, until the hour of his death, he occupied a most exalted position in the interest, affection and admiration of the people. He was a natural leader, not born to greatness, but destined to be great. His earliest utterances rang with the fervid enthusiasm of youthful patriotism. As the years advanced that patriotism never wavered. Time only strengthened his loyalty and devotion to his country and to its service. Every other consideration was subordinate to his lofty conception of American citizenship. It was this that made him the idol of 60,000,000 Americans, and this was the element that inspired the world with an admiration for his incomparable statesmanship and diplomacy.

That he did not escape the stain of political scandal is no reflection upon his integrity. In a period when the finger of suspicion was pointed at every public man, how could he, the greatest of them, expect to escape? Conscious of his own incorruptible record, he challenged the most searching investigation by his political enemies and no man can point to a page in his life's history and truthfully say that it contains a single blot or blemish. The history of his political career is part of the history of the nation. For twenty-five years his name was identified with nearly every public act and measure. In the last days of his political activity he framed the great measure for reciprocity, which shall stand as a monument to his foresight and sagacity.

That Mr. Blaine was disappointed in never attaining the presidency cannot be denied. But to him the honor would have been an empty one. He was greater without it than any other man has been with it. If Washington, Jefferson and Lincoln be excepted, his life has been one of ceaseless toil and activity and only in death did his tireless brain find rest. His spirit wanders as the shadows sweep from before the sunlight at the breaking of dawn. A nation is convulsed with grief, for he died without an enemy, at the pinnacle of earthly fame.

James H. Blaine is dead.

ELECTING SENATORS.

When the spoke shall clear away from the senatorial battles now going on in several of the states the ridiculousness of the present system of electing senators will be more glaringly apparent than ever. Sooner or later the demand of the people that senators be elected by direct vote must be granted. The Chicago Journal, discussing the senseless scramble for senatorships, very wisely remarks: "In one respect at least the election of United States senators by direct vote of the people would be an improvement upon the present system. There can be no question but that it would be much less expensive. At the present time there are some six or seven state legislatures, the members of which are indulging in that costly farce called a deadlock, all because it is impossible for them to bring about the necessary combination to elect a senator. In some of these cases there is a genuine struggle for party supremacy, but the personal element is an important factor in them all, and in several states constitutes the only bone of contention." It is the duty of the people to repeat and reinforce the demand for a direct vote until the end is accomplished.

ECONOMY AND ERROR.

Already the democrats are entered upon a crusade of "retrenchment and reform." The civil bill introduced by Mr. Dockery yesterday shows down certain salaries, makes no provision for senatorial clerks and has no provision for senatorial places generally. It is not what might be called a revolutionary measure, for great care was evidently exercised to cut salaries only where the state would be made at the expense of the present administration. Mr. Dockery's speech to the question of governmental finance is remarkable only for its misanthropic tenor. He sets up a series of "ifs" and declares that a deficiency will be shown on the conditions enumerated. As well might a banker declare himself to be insolvent because certain credits and debits are taken from his general resources to liquidate a particular obligation, as to contend that a deficiency will exist in the United States treasury because honest debts have been paid from money not included in specific funds. Mr. Dockery pretends that if certain money are credited to given funds and certain debts are included in certain statements of disbursements, a deficit will appear amounting to more than the surplus estimated by Secretary Foster. This is equivalent to saying that if the government had no money it would be bankrupt. His speech is a partisan tirade founded upon supposititious fancies rather than a financial review founded upon statistics and facts.

GOOD ROADS.

In view of the general agitation of the subject of good roads, the bill now before the New York legislature will suggest a concentration of ideas. Governor Rich thought the subject of so much importance as to be entitled to precedence over all other subjects in his inaugural message to the legislature. The committee appointed to investigate and report has made an exhaustive return, but no direct action has as yet been suggested to the legislature. The New York bill provides for an amendment to the present highway laws so as to empower the boards of supervisors in the various counties by a majority vote to designate certain main highways to be improved and maintained at county expense, the work to be done under the supervision of a county engineer designated by the board of supervisors. By another proposed amendment the tax for road improvement must be paid in money and not in work upon the highway in the slipshod and unsystematic manner of the past. The burden of road improvement seems to be upon the counties while the city of New York, which would profit enormously by a system of good roads throughout the state in the cheapening of supplies, would entirely escape taxation for such benefit. It is claimed that the state at large should pay one-fourth or one-half the expense of road improvement in each county. This bill is necessarily crude and incomplete, but it will serve as a starter to a most needed reform.

FOR THE FUTURE.

Every newspaper has a field. The HERALD is in the field for a purpose, and for a good purpose. It will elevate every worthy enterprise instead of degrading it. It devotes its time and energies to the upbuilding of our city, county and state. It yields its influence for order and decency. It has the best welfare of Grand Rapids and its people at heart. It ceaselessly strives to benefit its people and thus build up the metropolis of western Michigan. Let its daily service bear testimony to these words, as facts. All that is asked is simply the patronage and support of our citizens in proportion to labor performed, and the good results given them. The publishers will strive to make THE HERALD a fit messenger, worthy to be introduced into every household, without fear of any blighting influence from its columns. THE HERALD is on the side of good citizenship, and not for the rabble, the low and vicious.

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A strong and proud record will be that of THE HERALD.

Its aim is to become a worthy, influential, representative newspaper. To this end the support and good will of all citizens and advertising patrons is invited. C. G. S.

IN THE POLICE OFFICERS CONTINUE TO FARE AS THEY HAVE OF LATE, IN SELF-DEFENSE THEY WILL BE COMPELLED TO EXACT A BOND FOR INDEMNITY FROM ALL DAMAGES IN CONSEQUENCE OF MAKING ARRESTS. IT WOULD SEEM AS IF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD, WHICH DIRECTS AND CONTROLS THE DEPARTMENT, OUGHT TO BE HELD LIABLE FOR THE COSTS AND DAMAGES ASSESSED AGAINST THE OFFICERS WHO EXECUTE THEIR INSTRUCTIONS AND ORDERS. THE POLICE OFFICERS HAVE GOOD CAUSE TO DEMAND PROTECTION.

Mr. Black's errand to Chicago was not without return. He obtained a reasonable concession as to space for the furniture exhibit at the World's fair and there now remains no other course for the furniture association to pursue than to accept the situation and make the best possible exhibit in the limited time remaining in which to prepare one.

There is a movement on foot in Pennsylvania to petition the legislature to revoke the charter of two railroad companies comprising the coal combine. The coal combine is too hard-hearted and resolute to be frightened by such a bluff. "The price of coal will go up."

Recent's new kinestaph will photograph the gestures of a speaker while reproducing his speech. What a surprise party the kinestaph would be to the average constituent of legislators if it were put in operation at Lansing.

What a procession of the mighty has moved through the portals to eternity during the year. Death never before reached so promptly a harvest of the world's brightest and best within a twelvemonth.

At last several of the Panama canal schemers have been indicted and will be tried. There may yet be an end to the speculation that has rocked two hemispheres.

No more beautiful tribute to the genius and political eminence of the

dead statesman will be written than the soulful and sincere eulogy contributed by the fearless and intrepid free trader, Henry Watkinson, editor of the Louisville Courier-Journal.

SENATOR MICHIGAN of Wisconsin is noted for his whiskers and wealth. Between the two he ought to stand fairly well with Peffer and Hoke who now ornament that most august American body of senators.

AMUSEMENT NOTES.

Last evening the mystery and mystery-making Herrmann mystified a large audience in The Powers. His manifestations of spirit phenomena were truly marvelous, defying the keen ears and eyes of a committee appointed from the audience to detect him in his tricks. The Claretta opera-tion illusion is a remarkable one, but not more so than others of his inscrutable mysteries. He will appear again tonight, performing many new acts of sleight-of-hand.

Leland T. Powers, the celebrated impersonator and dramatic reader, entertained a large audience in Hartman's hall last evening by reading Dion Boucicault's play, "The Shaughraun." In his own peculiar line Mr. Powers has not an equal, and the remarkable control he possesses over his facial muscles and the range of his voice, enable him to carry all the parts intelligently, excited the wonder of all who heard him.

STATE PRESS SENTIMENT.

Those persons who argued that no good would come of legislative visit to various parts of the state will please take note of the remarks and representations felt like praying when they went down into the upper peninsula mines.—Detroit Tribune.

The direct election of United States senators by the people would simplify matters greatly, preventing plotting with nominations of legislators before election and tampering with those capable of being influenced afterward.—Muskegon Chronicle.

Grand Rapids people were terribly indignant over a failure of the street car service Tuesday night. If they experienced such a state of affairs all the year around as we do in Kalamazoo, they wouldn't get so excited over it.—Kalamazoo Gazette.

The collapse of the whisky trust is credited to Julius C. Burrows. Now let the able "Michigan member" train the batteries against some other enemy of civilization. He is doing a good work for the nation.—Benton Harbor Palladium.

The howling derbies of Egypt are now howling in their wrath; but should the British army of occupation move down that way they would be supplied with a good deal more substantial reason for their howlings.—Detroit Free Press.

How encouraging is the announcement that twenty New York millionaires are ready to build summer homes in Vermont if the farmers will promise to build good roads and keep them in repair.—Jackson Patriot.

Diphtheria prevailed last week in thirty-three places in Michigan. In Bay City it has assumed a virulent and epidemic character. It behooves health authorities to renewed vigilance.—Flagstaff Courier-Herald.

NIT AND MISS BRIEVITIES.

It was never intended by the founders of this government that the United States senate should be an asylum for tired millionaires or a lap of luxury for successful ward politicians; but the founders of this government were old fogies. What did they know about politics?—Chicago Tribune.

The silver statue will be but an incident in Montana's exhibition at the world's fair. The real feature to which the state will point with pride will be a deck of cards made from human skin. This time the lady's name is withheld.—New York Advertiser.

If the predicted January thaw arrives the merry plumbers will have diamonds to give away in less than two weeks. The town is to the plumber's vigilant eye a vast wilderness of burst water pipes.—New York Press.

The French government's zealous effort to procure the extradition of Herz is another evidence of the innocence of President Carnot, for Herz probably knows the whereabouts of the guilty Frenchman.—New York World.

This agitation for good country roads may result in the fact that the cheapest and best scheme for both passenger and freight traffic in the country is the electric railway.—Streator Free Press.

And the Hon. Matthew Stanley Quay has been vindicated again. Well, he can't have more vindications than he needs.—Chicago Tribune.

POINTS ABOUT MEN.

The czar is said to be pale and thin. But he is not so thin as some of the stories about his solicitude for the welfare and comfort of all his subjects.

General Butler's brain weighed more than that of Daniel Webster, by four ounces, but Daniel was by far the heavier man in national affairs.

The French fight about 4,000 duels a year, but the bulk of it has lost all interest in them. The job is got out of them as fast as cats' tails.

The backbone of the cold wave may be broken, but, for goodness sake, cling to your ulcer while there is a button left upon it.

Medieval medical men considered chips from the gall as on which somebody had been hanged a good remedy for ague.

Henry T. Sumner, who died in a cheap lodging house in Hartford last week, was a cousin of the late Charles Sumner.

President Patton will soon resume his regular duties at Princeton. He has been absent from attendance for nearly a year.

The university of Berlin has nearly 2,500 students, about 2,000 more than are at attendance at Harvard.

LAW IS SUPREME.

Errors in law are in view of the article in this issue this morning in approval of violence by officers of the law upon a citizen, whom the officers arrested because they knew of no legal way to prevent his doing evil, I would like to see printed the language of our supreme court.

"Make us, as we are disposed to make, all proper allowances for trial of police officers in dealing with persons who are supposed to be bad members of society, it is the duty of all courts to prevent good or bad citizens from being unjustly molested. Officially illegality is not a representative as private violation of law. The law of the land must be accepted by everyone as the only rule which can be allowed to govern the liberties of citizens, whatever may be their ill desert." Judge James V. Campbell in Farah Gray's case, 51 Mich. p. 304.

FOR AND ABOUT WOMEN.

With the empire styles the pretty fashion of head dresses, turbans and bits of twisted silk and lace is sure to come back. When last the empire gowns were worn head dresses became most elaborate, and they were of all colors and made of all sorts of stuff. They were not hats at all, but headgear to wear with evening gowns. Oh, won't we drive theatre wads if we take up the old time head dress? It will not be a hat and it will not be a bonnet, but they are to do it in a specified, and probably will be clerical. The question is a remarkable one for the Czar's dominion.

A German woman, Frau Dr. von Westheim Adele, spent three months as a common factory hand at Chemnitz and in the neighborhood, working in five different factories, gathering material for a work on the subject of women textile workers.

A correspondent from Helsinki writes that women in Finland compete with men as clerks, managers of luncheon companies, doctors, dentists, house builders and bank cashiers, in which capacity they are found more honest than men.

Two Jewish young ladies, Miss Adele Ellis and Miss Flora Rosenheim, have passed the final examination for the B. A. degree of the University of Melbourne.

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The charm of his loving heart, the radiance of his great mind, the glow of his earnest enthusiasm, and the patriotism of his every instinct, are living, vital, growing forces, which will shed lustre on this generation for ages to come.

What Gladstone is to England, Blaine is to Germany, Blaine is to the civilized world, who with us will mourn his death.

He had passed through the crises of political trial and stood at the highest apex of national greatness, typifying the possibilities of America. In the latter years of his life the majestic sweep of his intellect illuminated the darkest corners of the earth with principles of advanced thought.

The delegates in Pan-American congress assembled about him in council; with doubt and fear they scrutinized his every act, but when the convention dispersed, its representatives knew why Blaine was the idol of his country and the admired man in the world. A veritable bulwark in diplomacy, a master of finance, a wise legislator, a safe advisor, a true American, a loyal, loving friend. None here that can take his place on the scene of human action. Scholar, statesman, patriot, friend! Farewell! WILLIAM ALLEN SMITH.

ORGANIZED CHARITY.

EDITOR HERALD.—Perhaps it is due the public that an explanation be made of the movement recently inaugurated for systemizing the charitable work of the city. During the past year there have been held several meetings of a few men and women of the city who were more or less familiar with the work of dispensing charity, and providing for the wants of the sick and destitute, with a view to devising better methods for doing the work. Nothing practical resulted until our townsman, J. W. Rosenthal, who has had much experience in such work, originated a plan for a thorough test of public opinion on the subject. He prepared and sent out a great number of circulars, explaining the methods of "organized charity," and with them a printed slip with a request that those who favored the project would return them to me duly signed.

I have received a great number of favorable replies, and several very interesting letters from persons who evidently feel much interest in the matter. So certain is it that there is almost universal feeling in favor of some new method, that a public meeting was called to discuss the question as soon as we can obtain the services of one or both of two experts who have volunteered to come and address us, on payment of their necessary expenses. THOMAS D. GILBERT.

MUST HAVE MEANT MUSKOGON.

Milward Adams tells a good story. He accompanied Theodore Thomas to Grand Rapids, where the Chicago orchestra gave a concert. While he was sitting in the box office of the theater a rough-looking negro man approached with a stick, collar turned up and his nose as red as a holly berry. In a rasping voice he said to Mr. Adams: "What's gone on in yere tonight?" In his blundered tones the Chicago manager informed the man from the rural districts that Theodore Thomas was trying to abuse the people of Grand Rapids. The explanation was not at all satisfactory, for, looking Mr. Adams squarely in the eye, the stranger said: "Theodore Thomas? What in— is that, a lecture?" Adams couldn't stand a word more, but he got out one long shout that might have been heard all over Kent county in the state of Michigan.—Chicago Post.

ALLEGED TO BE FUNNY.

Nellie (in the absence of the servant, trying to start a fire in the grate—Oh, dear, I was the stupid fire would burn).

Nellie's Mother—Throw in some of Mr. Gushington's love letters to you, Nell.—Nash's Weekly.

Little Johnnie—I guess sis has accepted Mr. Newcomb.

Little Sister—Why?

Little Johnnie—He hasn't given me any candy for a week and yesterday he kicked the dog.—Sweet & Smith's Good News.

"What does Harrington see in Harrington's personal appearance to admire so much? He is always talking of 'handsome Harrington'."

"Why, don't you know? They are said to look very much alike."—Puck.

Passenger (on L. road)—My goodness! Half a second more and you would have slammed that gate right into my finger.

Guard—Well, it's raining and it's too soon to go.—New York Weekly.

Every man thinks himself above superstition, of course; but the coming of a so-called lucky day has never passed him by. It is the monkey's prognostic which is always a "delusion of the devil."—Puck.

Teacher—I am glad to see you working so diligently at your writing lessons.

Little Boy—You! I want to get so I can write my own excuses.—Sweet & Smith's Good News.

less than 2,500 articles of clothing for the poor to the London Needlework Guild during the past year. When a one remarked upon her untiring energy the royal lady said, with her characteristic smile: "Yes, the people ought to be fond of us, for we do work hard for them."

From St. Petersburg comes the surprising information that women may be employed upon the state railways in the future to the proportion of 20 per cent. The nature of the work they are to do is not specified, and probably will be clerical. The question is a remarkable one for the Czar's dominion.

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NEWS OF THE HOTELS.

"P. M. Bruner, Dayton," is the way it reads. It was written in a hotel, the proprietor of the register in Dayton. The proprietor of the register is a drummer—just one of those hotel men that wear silver chains and play pool for the beer; but a pretty blonde, with blue eyes, and light fluffy bangs, and a peach-blossom complexion. Miss Bruner travels for the Bruner Soap Company, and sells laundry soap. She has been on the road for four years, but this is her first trip to Grand Rapids.

"Another man used to come up here," she said, naively—she didn't notice the inconsistency of the expression, "another man." "He didn't do very well, and so the company sent me up. I expect I shall have to make Grand Rapids regularly now. I already cover six states. Do I like my occupation? Oh, ever so much. I don't see why a woman can't be a 'traveling man' just as well as a man. Of course there are some lines she couldn't handle—whiskies, tobacco and cigars, and such things—but with most anything else she is all right. Lots of persons think because I sell soap it must be toilet soap; but I don't sell an ounce of it. It's all laundry soap, and I do business as the company sent me up. I expect I shall have to make Grand Rapids regularly now. I already cover six states. Do I like my occupation? Oh, ever so much. I don't see why a woman can't be a 'traveling man' just as well as a man. Of course there are some lines she couldn't handle—whiskies, tobacco and cigars, and such things—but with most anything else she is all right. Lots of persons think because I sell soap it must be toilet soap; but I don't sell an ounce of it. It's all laundry soap, and I do business as the company sent me up. I expect I shall have to make Grand Rapids regularly now. I already cover six states. Do I like my occupation? Oh, ever so much. I don't see why a woman can't be a 'traveling man' just as well as a man. Of course there are some lines she couldn't handle—whiskies, tobacco and cigars, and such things—but with most anything else she is all right. Lots of persons think because I sell soap it must be toilet soap; but I don't sell an ounce of it. It's all laundry soap, and I do business as the company sent me up. I expect I shall have to make Grand Rapids regularly now. I already cover six states. Do I like my occupation? Oh, ever so much. I don't see why a woman can't be a 'traveling man' just as